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Attorney Docket No. 103919

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Ignatious et al.

: EXAMINER: Todd Ware

: ART UNIT: 1615

APPLICATION NO.: 09/171,740

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CONJUGATE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit, August 15, 2002

Alan F. Feeney

Sir:

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF IMPROPER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

In response to the Communication mailed July 18, 2002 (hereinafter the "Notice"), the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the request for continued examination filed on July 1, 2002.

## REMARKS

A Final Office Action rejecting all pending claims of the above application was mailed on February 11, 2002. On July 1, 2002, the Applicants filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 Transmittal together with a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a Transmittal Letter and Fee Authorization and a 3rd Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with attached form PTO-1449. A copy of Petitioner's July 1st submission is attached.

The Patent and Trademark Office received said documents on July 8, 2002, as evidenced by Applicants' receipt of an acknowledgement postcard on which the Patent and Trademark